Message Text

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R 211300Z SEP 77
FM AMEMBASSY MONROVIA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6406
INFO USMISSION UN NEW YORK

CONFIDENTIAL SECTION 1 OF 2 MONROVIA 6606

E.O. 11652 GDS TAGS: PFOR, UN, LI SUBJECT: LIBERIAN POLICIES AT THE 32ND UNGA

REF: MONROVIA 4805

- 1. ON SEPTEMBER 19 POLITICAL COUNSELOR REVIEWED WITH SONI SHERMAN, ASSISTANT MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS FOR INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, ALL MAJOR ISSUES LIKELY TO ARISE DURING THE 32ND UNGA. IT IS LIKELY THAT THE ONLY ISSUE ON WHICH THE GOL IS LIKELY TO VOTE AGAINST THE U.S. CONCERNS THE SOVIET RESOLUTION ON THE NON-USE OF FORCE. SHERMAN SAID THAT THE GOL DOES NOT BELIEVE THAT PASSAGE OF THE SOVIET RESOLUTION WOULD NECESSARILY WEAKEN EXISTING INTERNATIONAL COMMITMENTS UNDER THE CHARTER TO REFRAIN FROM THE THREAT OR USE OF FORCE IN INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS. COMMENTS BY SHERMAN ON OTHER ISSUES ARE DESCRIBED BELOW.
- 2. THE GOL DELEGATION WILL BE HEADED BY FOREIGN MINISTER C. CECIL DENNIS (MRS. DENNIS WILL NOT ACCOMPANY). THE DELEGATION WILL INCLUDE AMBASSADORS CONFIDENTIAL

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AT-LARGE EMMETT HARMON, DOSUMU JOHNSON AND HARRY MORRIS; VICE PRESIDENTIAL CANDIDATE BISHOP BENNIE WARNER (WHO WILL STAY ONLY 10 DAYS); J. HENRY ANDREWS, LOCAL ATTORNEY AND FORMER MINISTER OF INFORMATION; TAYLOR MAJOR; SENATORS SHAD TUBMAN AND ELIZABETH COLLINS; ATTORNEY J. DOSSEN RICHARDS; D. ELWOOD DUNN, SPECIAL ASSISTANT TO THE FOREIGN MINISTER; SONI

SHERMAN; ROBERT W. DRAPER, YMCA; AND IMOGENE COLLINS, DIRECTOR OF PUBLICATIONS AT THE FOREIGN MINISTRY.

- 3. AMBASSADOR CARTER WAS TOLD BY FOREIGN MINISTER DENNIS, SEPTEMBER 16, THAT IN HIS SPEECH BEFORE THE UNGA HE WOULD EMPHASIZE HUMAN RIGHTS. DENNIS SAID THAT HE INTENDED TO QUOTE FROM A SPEECH BY PRESIDENT TOLBERT AT THE RECENT OAU HEADS OF STATE CONFERENCE IN LIBREVILLE IN WHICH TOLBERT CAUTIONED AFRICANS THAT THEY COULD NOT RESTRICT THEIR CONCERN FOR HUMAN RIGHTS TO SOUTHERN AFRICA BUT MUST INCLUDE AS WELL HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS THROUGHOUT THE AFRICAN CONTINENT.
- 4. SUMMARIZED BELOW ARE COMMENTS BY ASSISTANT MINISTER SHERMAN ON SPECIFIC UNGA ISSUES:
- (A) MIDDLE EAST: THE GOL CONTINUES TO SUPPORT SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTIONS 242 AND 338; TO OPPOSE ISRAELI SETTLEMENTS IN THE OCCUPIED AREAS; AND TO OPPOSE EXPULSION OF ISRAEL FROM THE UNGA.
- (B) CYPRUS: THE TWO COMMUNITIES ON THE ISLAND SHOULD WORK OUT A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT OF THEIR PROBLEMS, WITH EACH GROUP ON AN EQUAL FOOTING. THERE SHOULD BE NO EXTERNAL INTERFERNCE IN THIS PROCESS.

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- (C) RHODESIA: THE GOL SUPPORTS THE CONCEPT OF NATIONAL UNITY AMONG THE FACTIONS CONTENDING FOR CONTROL OF THE INDEPENDENCE MOVEMENT.
- (D) APARTHEID: THE GOL SUPPORTS STRONGLY THE DECLARATION ON APARTHEID DRAFTED AT THE RECENT LAGOS CONFERENCE.
- (E) NAMIBIA: THE GOL SUPPORTS THE ROLE OF THE UN AS PROPOSED BY THE CONTACT GROUP . THE GOL CONSIDERS SWAPO AS THE SOLE LEGITIMATE REPRESENTATIVE OF THE PEOPLE OF NAMIBIA.
- (F) DISARMAMENT SPECIAL SESSION: THE GOL BELIEVES THAT ALL NATIONS SHOULD PARTICIPATE ON AN EQUAL FOOTING AT THE SSOD AND DOES NOT WANT TO SEE DOMINATION BY THE "SUPER POWERS". THE GOL FEELS THAT IT MIGHT BE BETTER IF THE "SUPER POWERS" MERELY LISTENED TO THE VIEWS OF OTHER NATIONS AT THE SSOD.
- (G) CHEMICAL WEAPONS: THE GOL WILL CONTINUE TO SUPPORT U.S. INITIATIVES FOR A COMPREHENSIVE CHEMICAL WEAPONS

AGREEMENT.

(H) PUERTO RICO: THE GOL HAS NO FORMAL POSITION ON THIS ISSUE WHICH IT CONSIDERS TO BE AN INTERNAL ISSUE OF THE U.S.

(I) GUAM: THE GOL DOES NOT INTEND TO TAKE AN ACTIVE PART IN ANY DISCUSSIONS OF THIS ISSUE.

(J) KOREA: NORTH AND SOUTH KOREA SHOULD CONTINUE TO SEEK MEANS TO CONSULT TOGETHER IN ACCORD WITH THE 1972 COMMUNIQUE.

(K) HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS: THE CONFIDENTIAL

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GOL SUPPORTS CREATION OF THE POST OF HIGH COMMISSIONER BUT HAS DOUBTS THAT THERE IS MUCH HE CAN DO TO PROMOTE HUMAN RIGHTS EFFECTIVELY.

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(L) THE DECADE AGAINST RACISM: THE GOL OPPOSES ATTEMPTS TO EQUATE ZIONISM WITH RACISM IN WHATEVER FORM THEY APPEAR.

(M) TORUTE: THE GOL SUPPORTS ESTABLISHMENT OF A WORKING GROUP ON TORTURE.

(N) UN MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET: THE GOL BELIEVES THAT THERE SHOULD BE FAR MORE EMPHASIS ON IMPROVING UN ADMINSTRATION AND IN CONTROLLING ITS BUDGET. THE GOL ITSELF IS CONCERNED OVER THE RAPID INCREASE IN ITS OWN CONTRIBUTION TO INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, A CONTRIBUTION WHICH HAS NOW REACHED \$1.8 MILLION. A GOL COMMITTEE HAS BEEN ESTABLISHED TO STUDY WHETHER IT MIGHT BE ADVISABLE FOR THE GOL TO WITHDRAW FROM ORGANIZATIONS LIKE THE IAEA, IN WHICH IT DOES NOT PARTICIPATE AND FROM WHICH IT DERIVES NO DIRECT BENEFITS.

(O) UN CONFERENCES: GOL SHARES CONCERN OVER PRO-LIFERATION OF EXPENSIVE CONFERENCES. IT RECOMMENDS THAT WHEREVER POSSIBLE, CONFERENCES SHOULD BE HELD AT THE SITE OF THE HEADQUARTERS OF THE ORGANIZATION CONFIDENTIAL

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CONCERNED, AND THAT CONFERENCES OF INTEREST TO AFRICA SHOULD BE GIVEN PRIORITY.

(P) UN SALARIES: GOL BELIEVES THAT UN SALARIES HAVE BECOME EXCESSIVE AND WANTS A CLOSE LOOK AT THE SALARY STRUCTURE.

(Q) ECONOMIC ISSUES: IN GENERAL, THE GOL WILL CONTINUE TO FOLLOW THE LEAD OF GROUP 77 BUT WILL NOT HESITATE TO ENTER RESERVATIONS ON GROUP POSITIONS WHICH THE GOL

FEELS TO BE EXCESSIVELY INFLUENCED BY THE "RADICALS". THE GOL IS HAPPY WITH THE ROLE PLAYED BY THE U.S. IN THE NEGOTIATIONS FOR A COMMON FUND. THE GOL BELIEVES ALSO THAT THOSE FOR WHOM THE FUND IS DESIGNED SHOULD HAVE AN ACTIVE ROLE IN NEGOTIATIONS AND FURTHER MORE SHOULD BE EXPECTED TO PAY WHAT THEY CAN. THE GOL FEELS THAT THE INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT DECADE HAS BEEN A FAILURE WITH MAJOR TARGETS NOT MET. A NEW STRATEGY FOR INTERNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT SHOULD BE DEVISED. CARTER

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